



Quick Access to SDVOSB - Contracting Vehicles

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is aggressively working to increase its use of Service Disabled Veteran -Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB) in fulfilling our contract needs and to support those men and women to whom we owe so much. The Assistant Secretary for Administration and the Chief Information Officer are actively working together to achieve USDA's SDVOSB goal.

The Secretary strongly expressed his commitment to this initiative in Secretary's Memorandum 5090-001, dated July 12, 2005 (<http://www.ocio.usda.gov/directives/doc/SM5090-001.pdf>).

USDA is placing special emphasis on **two goals**:

- (1) Attain or exceed the mandated 3 percent goal for contracts awarded to SDVOSBs for the total value of all USDA contracts, and
- (2) Award 5 percent of the total value of all applicable information technology contracts to SDVOSBs as prescribed in the Secretary's Memorandum.

To aid you in achieving your agency's goals, there are several steps you can take:

- (1) Review your contracting needs and proactively determine whether they can be met through a SDVOSB.
- (2) To identify qualified businesses:
 - (a) Contact your contracting office.
 - (b) Contact USDA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) for assistance ((202) 720-7117).
 - (c) Search:

The Central Contractor Registration

<http://www.ccr.gov>;

The Federal Web Portal for Veterans in Business;

<http://www.vip.vetbiz.gov>;

GSA's Website GSA Advantage

https://www.gsaadvantage.gov/advgsa/advantage/main/start_page.do

GSA listing of self-identified SDVOSB on GSA Federal Supply Schedule

http://www.gsa.gov/gsa/cm_attachments/GSA_BASIC/VA%20SDVOSB%20Listing%20-%202002-16-06_R2-oH2C_0Z5RDZ-i34K-pR.xls

- (3) Contracting vehicles/approaches available to meet immediate needs. Suggested examples:
- (a) USDA's Office of Procurement and Property Management has established a blanket purchase agreement for IT hardware and peripherals with the following SDVOSBs (http://www.hqnet.usda.gov/oppm/usdaconts/it_sdvosb.htm):
 - ❖ Omega Technologies, Inc.
www.omega-its.com
 - ❖ Four Points Technology, LLC.
www.4points.com/clients/index.html and,
 - ❖ Video & Telecommunications, Inc. (VTI)
http://www.vti2.com/usda_bpa_pricing.htm.
 - (b) Several of the GWACs also have SDVOSBs available on them, including:
 - ❖ 8(a) STARS
http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA_OVERVIEW&contentId=15749&noc=T, and
 - ❖ COMMITS
<http://oam.ocs.doc.gov/commits/>.
 - (c) GSA's E-Buy request for quotation (RFQ) tool (<http://www.ebuy.gsa.gov/>) can be used by Federal contracting staffs to obtain on-line quotes from SDVOSBs from GSA multiple award schedules (MAS). E-Buy is available for use by Federal contracting staff at no cost.
 - (d) Many SDVOSBs also are experienced 8(a) companies. USDA agencies can reduce acquisition processing time by contracting with qualified SDVOSBs that are also participants in SBA's 8(a) program. (Note: Your agency obtains credit for both 8(a) and SDVOSB goals.)
- (4) Review current contracts with Veteran-Owned Businesses to determine if they are also designated as Service Disabled.
- (5) Check with your contracting office to ensure all contracts have been properly identified in contracting reporting systems so your agency and USDA will have accurate reporting regarding business with the Service Disabled Veteran –Owned Business community.
- (6) Communicate with others throughout USDA and the Federal Government about your agency requirements to identify SDVOSBs that can meet your business goals.